County task force increases activity, prevents any fatalities this year

Donovan Aird  
MUSTANG DAILY

The past couple of months may have brought their usual holiday cheer to most of San Luis Obispo County, but they were underscored by an unsettling trend — and this time, one that took on historic proportions.

From Nov. 22, 2007 to New Year’s Day, 294 DUI arrests were made within the county, which signified a 12.6 percent increase from the same time span of 2006.

Avoid the 14, a county effort including DUI saturation patrols and monitoring checkpoints to prevent driving under the influence, oversaw 22 DUI arrests on Dec. 1, 2007, which was the highest amount of such arrests made on one day during the period.

After four fatal DUI traffic collisions during the holiday period in 2006, though, Avoid the 14, which is named for the number of days of drinking within a two-week period, has been instrumental in reporting drunk driving. “The public is tired of people drinking and driving, and the community is tired of seeing unnecessary deaths.”

A naturally contributing factor to the increase in arrests was that there were five weekends between Thanksgiving and Christmas in 2007 as opposed to the usual four, Taylor said. Just the same, though, she was elated with the void of fatalities.

“I can’t tell you the last time we didn’t have a fatal (collision) during a holiday period,” she said.

San Luis Obispo Police Department Capt. Dan Blanke, while also ecstatic with the absence of fatalities, called their “most recent nonexistence more of a ‘cyclical’ development than any outcome derived from particular actions taken to deter them.”

“We have to constantly keep up the effort, enforcement-wise and education-wise,” he said. “I don’t think it’s a problem that’s going to go away.”

Business junior Juliana Bunce said that although efforts such as Avoid the 14 are commendable, motorists, including Cal Poly students, aren’t likely to necessarily be deterred from drunk driving by such approaches if they are even aware of them.

“(Drunk drivers) don’t care; they’re going to drink anyway,” Bunce said. “It’s not going to stop them, and they’re still going to get caught.”

Mechanical engineering junior Andrew Bookholt agreed that drunk driving among college students isn’t likely to dissuade. “There’s not really much change,” he said. “There’ll always be a constant small percentage of people who take the risk.”

Bookholt, a Pennsylvania native, said that while the college atmosphere can contribute to such illegalities, it isn’t necessarily its main reason.

“I guess you’re bound to see more partying amongst college students,” he said. “But there are probably a high amount of people in the same age doing it who don’t go to college.”

Blanke, a Cal Poly alumnus himself, pointed out that although it may seem as if college students get a bad rap for the problem, especially in a community such as San Luis Obispo, the city’s nature as a tourist destination is primarily what gives it a bad name in the eyes of those from outside the county.


Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Civil Rights Act of 1964, but Bill Clinton said Illions Sen. Obama was selling a “fairytale” about his opposition to the Iraq war.

Former President Clinton has since appeared on several black radio programs to say he was referring to Obama’s record on the war, not on his effort to become the nation’s first black president.

At an awards dinner Sunday in Atlanta celebrating black achievement, Michelle Obama said her husband is the person America needs in the White House right now and was critical of anyone who “would dismiss this moment as an illusion, a fairy tale.” He is the right candidate “not because of the color of his skin, but because of the quality and consistency of his character,” she said.

As evidence the Obama campaign had pushed the story, Clinton advisors posted to a memo written by an Obama staffer compiling examples of comments by Clinton and her surrogates that could be construed as racially insensitive. The memo later surfaced on a handful of political Web sites.

Obama later called Clinton’s accusations “insubordination,” and said he found Clinton’s comments about King to be ill-advised and inaccurate.

“If Senator Clinton wants to see Obama, page 2

Globe winners announced quietly amid writers strike

The tragic romance “Atonement” was named best drama Sunday at a Golden Globes event that was deflated from star-studded revelry by the deep-pocket, conference-style awards announcement because of the Hollywood writers strike.

The bloody stage adaptation “Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street” was chosen as best musical or comedy. Its star, Johnny Depp, won for best actor in a musical or comedy for his role, playing a vengeful barber in the adaptation of Stephen Sondheim’s stage musical.

Also winning two awards was the crime saga “No Country for Old Men,” which earned the screenplay Globe for writer-directors Ethan and Joel Coen and the supporting actor honor for Javier Bardem as a killer tracking a fortune in oil.

Daniel Day-Lewis was named best dramatic actor for the epic “There Will Be Blood,” in which he plays a baron of California’s oil boom in the early 20th century.

Juliet Christie won best dramatic actress for the gloomy “Away From Her,” and Carice Van Houten took the supporting actress Globe for the Bob Dylan tale “I’m Not There.”

On strike since Nov. 5, the Writers Guild of America refused to let union members work on the star-studded banquet-style show, prompting actors to boycott the ceremony rather than cross picket lines.

The fate of Hollywood’s biggest night, the Feb. 24 Oscars, remains uncertain. Organizers insist the show will come off as planned, with or without the writers.
ASU's Rocking the Vote

What: ASU is hosting this event to help inform students about political issues to prepare for the presidential election. There will be a Barack Obama representative present, as well as campus leaders and representatives who will answer questions. There will also be opportunities to register to vote.

Where: UU Plaza
When: Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Questions? Call Tracy Watson at (805) 756-1291

WiHire Career Development Workshop

What: The workshop will allow students and recruiters to connect in an informal setting in preparation for Wednesday and Thursday's Winter Job Fair.

Where: Business building, room 213
When: Tuesday at 7 p.m.
Questions? Call Christina Chappe at (408) 472-3012

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What: Award-winning author, poet and filmmaker M.K. Asante, Jr. will speak as part of the Multicultural Centers Black History Month calendar of representative presentations, as well as campus leaders and representatives who will answer questions. There will be a Barack Obama representative present, as well as campus leaders and representatives who will answer questions. There will also be opportunities to register to vote.

Where: Spanos Theater
When: Tuesday at 7 p.m.
Questions? Call Christina Chappe at (408) 472-3012

GOP surrogates debate

What: The Cal Poly Republicans and the Lincoln Club of San Luis Obispo are sponsoring a debate that will feature surrogates for the top six Republican presidential candidates.

Where: Spanos Theater
When: Tuesday at 7 p.m.
Questions? Call Renoda Campbell at (805) 756-5840

Tribute to Martin Luther King, Jr.

What: Award-winning author, poet and filmmaker M.K. Asante, Jr. will speak as part of the Multicultural Centers Black History Month calendar of events. His lecture, "I Am Because We Are: Dr. King, Our Generation and the Next Movement," is a tribute to Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday.

When: Performing Arts Pavilion
When: Tuesday at 7 p.m.
Questions? Call Renoda Campbell at (805) 756-5840

On-campus blood drive

What: Gift Blood
Where: The Sierra Madre Residence Hall
When: Wednesday and Thursday from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Speaker contends 2000, 2004 elections were "stolen"

What: Media expert and author Mark Crispin Miller presents "Loser: The Sierra Madre Residence Hall
When: Tuesday at 11 a.m.
Questions? Call George Corkin at (805) 756-2763

Obama continued from page 1

be distracted by the sorts of political points-scoring that was evident today then that is going to be her prerogative," Obama said.

Another rival, John Edwards, added his voice to the chorus of criticism of Clinton's comments about King.

"I must say I was troubled recently to see a suggestion that real change that came not through the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King but through a Washington politician. I fundamentally disagree with that." Edwards told more than 200 people gathered at a predominantly black Baptist church in Sumter, S.C.

"Later Sunday, the Clinton campaign scrambled to explain comments by one of its top black supporters, BET founder Bob Johnson, that seemed to raise the issue of Obama's admitted teenage drug use.

"I am frankly insulted the Obama campaign would imply that we are so stupid that we would think Hillary and Bill Clinton, who have been deeply and emotionally involved in black issues — when Barack Obama was doing something in the neighborhood; I won't say what he was doing, but he said it in his book — when they have been involved," Johnson said at an event with Clinton in Columbia, S.C.

In his memoir, "Dreams from My Father," Obama described using marijuana and occasionally sampling cocaine as a youth. He declined to respond directly to Johnson's remarks but said he was running a campaign of "hope and change." Clinton said the remarks were an attempt by Obama to distract from his record in the Senate.

"If you are part of America's history, you know that speeches are essential to frame an issue, to inspire, and lift up," Clinton said. "But when the cam­ era- ers are gone and when the lights are out, what happens next?"

Obama scoffed at her suggestion of an inconsistent record on the war. Campaigning in Las Vegas, he said he voted for war funding out of an obligation to support the troops, and noted other prominent Democrats, Sens. Edward M. Kennedy and Barbara Boxer, who voted the same way.

"Once we had our troops in, two years into a war, it was important that we do the best job of it," Obama said before speaking at a Pentecostal church. "They decided to run a relentlessly negative campaign. I don't think anyone who is paying attention can deny that."

Clinton ended her day in South Carolina by speaking to more than 100 women at an invitation-only event at Columbia YWCA.

"We still have too many women who are not being treated fairly in the workplace," she said. "This is not a woman's issue. This is a fairness and quality issue."

Be our GUEST!

The Mustang Daily is always accepting comments for its pages.

Comments* should be about 500 words long and on an original topic. All comments are subject to edited and approval. Send with your year and major to mustangdailynews@gmail.com.

* Editor reserve the right to edit, comments for spelling, grammar, and style preference.

Arrests continued from page 1

A two-college town with less than 50,000 overall residents makes San Luis Obispo "arrested" by the highest volume of college-aged DUl arrests simply inevitable.

Even worse may be drunk­ driving climates in other areas of the state, throughout which there are 40 similar countryside DUl crackdowns.

Mathematics sophomore Alfred Keller said that his native Modesto makes San Luis Obispo look relatively dry.

"It's 10 times worse there," he said. "It doesn't seem too bad here."

General engineering senior Alan Huu, who runs in the New Year in San Francisco, feels that an increased law enforcement pres­ ence helped curtail drunk driv­ ing that may have otherwise sur­ rounded him.

"This year there were a lot more people staying in than going out," Huu said. "Up (in San Fran­ cisco) it was really strict."

While there were no drunk driving-related fatalities reported in San Luis Obispo County this past holiday season, one of its resi­ dents, Jeremy White, 27, of Paso Robles, was arrested December 19 near La Conchita on suspicion of felony DUl after reportedly be­ hind the wheel of a pickup truck involved in a collision that killed one person and left a CHP officer seriously injured.

Taylor said that with extra fund­ ing, Avoid the 14 was able to in­ crease its personnel and get "more in the swing of things" from years past. She added that people should remember the families of victims of drunk driving.

"Call a designated driver, a family member, a friend or a cab," Tay­ lor said. "(When a fatality happens) someone has to call the family and notify family members about someone has to call the family and notify family members about someone has to call the family and notify family members about something that was completely avoidable. Zero people (who drink and drive) is the aim."
State

VACAVILLE (AP) — Authorities say they are examining the sport utility vehicle of a murdered couple saturated at Travis Air Force Base to see if a mechanical malfunction may have led to their deaths.

The pair was found dead Friday in a Chevrolet Blazer parked outside their Vacaville apartment complex.

Air Force spokesman Sgt. Matthew McGovern identified the couple as 22-year-old Senior Airman Chad Chewick of Bandera, Texas, and 23-year-old Senior Airman Jessica Chewick of Bloomington, Ind.

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Police have identified a man killed outside his daughter's high school basketball game as a San Francisco anti-violence activist and father of one of the country's leading young players.

A police spokesman says Terrell Rogers was shot multiple times while across the street from the Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory gymnasium during halftime Saturday night. No arrests were made.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A man died after falling several stories in a Hollywood shopping mall while apparently attempting to slide down the banister of an escalator.

The victim's friends told officials investigation the Saturday night incident at the Hollywood and Highland Center that the man "had been drinking quite a bit," said Los Angeles police Officer J. Boyer.

Boyler said the man lost his balance and plunged several stories onto the steps of a moving lower-level escalator.

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George W. Bush talks to the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, left, and UAE Minister of Economy Sheikh Lahba al-Qassimi, right, during a visit to the Royal Stables at the Al Asayl Racing and Equestrian Club near the town of Sowaihan in the United Arab Emirates.

President Bush gently nudged authoritarian rulers in the Middle East, satisfying frustrated desires for democracy in the Mideast and saved his harshest criticism for Iraq, branding it "the world's leading state-sponsor of terror."

Speaking in this Persian Gulf country, about 150 miles from the shores of Iran, Bush said Tehran threatened nations everywhere and that the United States was "rallying friends around the world to confront this danger before it is too late."

The warning about Iran was much tougher than Bush's admissions about spreading democracy in the Middle East, which had been billed as the central theme of his speech.

In a region of autocratic rulers, Bush did not single out any country for criticism. He spoke about democracy in a deeply undemocratic country, the United Arab Emirates, where an elite of royal rulers makes virtually all the decisions. Large numbers of foreign resident workers have few legal or human rights, including no right to protest working conditions.

"To the people of the Middle East;" Bush said. "We share your desire for a free and fair society. We hear your cries for justice," Bush said. "You want to choose a free future whenever they choose a free future whenever they want."

As he rode out into the sand dunes to the Asayl Racing and Equestrian Club near the town of Sowaihan in the United Arab Emirates.

"Leaders on both sides still have many tough decisions ahead, and they will need to back these decisions with real commitments," Bush said. "But the time has come for a new U.S. intelligence report that said Iran had stopped pursuing nuclear weapons in 2003."

Bush praised some democratic reforms in Arab countries. He urged leaders to show support for the fragile democracy in a deeply undemocratic country, the United States will stand with you.

"To the leaders of the United Arab Emirates, where an elite of royal rulers makes virtually all the decisions. Large numbers of foreign resident workers have few legal or human rights, including no right to protest working conditions."

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Frequenters of San Luis Obispo Farmers' Market may be familiar with Dean Giordano, a man happy to hand out samples of his unique, healthy frozen-fruit delicacy, G's Italian Freeze.

Giordano posted a booth for four weeks at the weekly bazaar on Higuera Street at the end of September and beginning of October, and received a great response from market attendees. News of a vacancy two months ago, and he has played a part in every building owners about two months before (his) opening Jan. 9, and once (Giordano) signed a contract with the Chamber of Commerce, a grand opening will ensue with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

Giordano has just one partner, Ken Colbert, a high school buddy, who will be the financial brains of the operation. Aside from Colbert, Giordano will be the sole employee at his store for the first month or two so he can meet the people coming in and tell them about his product.

"I'm just a perfectionist freak with this, so it's got to be perfect every time. If you get it wrong one time, they're not going to like it," Giordano said. "But right now I think it's all dialed in and that's why I'm more anal about staying here and making sure it's done right."

In 1999, before his daughters were born, Giordano, who used to work as an auto broker, had a booth with his frozen creations near the Pismo Beach operation so he could spend more time with his budding family, but continued to conjure up his recipe for his daughters' birthdays and soccer games over the years.

Giordano explained that his fruit concoction — which comes in orange, strawberry, pineapple and lemon flavors — is "a product that everyone loves — the adults, the kids, myself. It's just something that San Luis hasn't had. It's definitely a treat that's been specialized," he said.

Unlike Italian ice, which is made from fruit purees, shaved ice (ice with syrup poured over it) or gelato (which is made with dairy products), G's Italian Freeze is a non-dairy, cholesterol- and fat-free product made from whole fruits, fruit, sugar and some other secret ingredients.

Giordano has been playing with his recipe over time and said the key to his product is all in the texture, which is highly affected by the freezing temperature he uses. He makes the freeze daily in small batches to ensure freshness. Because all freezers are different, and Giordano is used to making his treats for single occasions like soccer games, he said, "I wanted to open up in the winter time, so I can work all the bugs out. So by summer, hopefully it will be happier."

Along with his frozen treats, Giordano also sells his original recipe — European or Bain-Marie style hot chocolate made with Ghirardelli chocolate. The treat is like an Italian sipping chocolate, a product that you can eat with a spoon due to its thickness, but thinned out so it's drinkable.

"It's a lot richer than what you'd find in different coffee shops," he said.

Customers also have the option of adding one of six flavored syrups to the chocolate for no charge.

"I have something for the winter and something for the summer," Giordano explained.

The chocolate beverage is similar to ice cream, page 7
Since when did Hollywood become so adamantly pro-life?

Angela Marie Watkins

Written by titillating blogger and former peep show provocateur Diablo Cody, "Juno" is the story of a 16-year-old girl trying to find out what kind of girl she is while one that owns a bass guitar — from a Penny Saver.

From there on out it’s a flood of witty banter and pop-culture references (some of them incorrect: Morgan Freeman was not in "The Bone Collector") while Juno tries to deal with the whole growing-up-while-being-pregnant thing.

While the plot is not too original — if you don’t believe me, turn on the Lifetime channel — the clever dialogue, soundtrack by a super-cuddly music elitist and subtle-yet-self-assured music elitist and subtle-yet-sarcastic pop-culture references (some of them incorrect: Morgan Freeman was not in "The Bone Collector") while Juno tries to deal with the whole growing-up-while-being-pregnant thing.

Yet that does not necessarily give the movie a passing grade in the believability department. Recently it seems moviegoers are bombarded with a slew of movies that not only say "unwanted pregnancy is totally awesome!" but imply that it will suddenly make your life work out in all the right ways.

In "Knocked Up," Katherine Heigl’s alcohol-induced, soon-to-be-bundle of joy is greeted with the total support of her family and even helps her receive a promotion at work. Meanwhile, her pot-head baby’s daddy suddenly cleans up his act so they can all live happily ever after.

"Waitress," starring Keri Russell, faces just as bright an outcome. When Russell’s character decides to have a baby she doesn’t really want, she names a pie after her pretzel disdain. She also starts a steamy love affair and is miraculously bequeathed a quarter million dollars.

"Juno" follows this same train of thought. Her parents are slightly perturbed with the situation but quickly shift into "let’s make this work!" mode and get back on the rails with the clever comeback express. There are a few bumpy along the way, but for the most part, things work out well for Juno and her unborn baby.

Unfortunately, back in reality, this is not the case for a majority of pregnant teens. However, the movie is unpretentious enough that it’s justifiable to excuse the implausible story as a special case.

Flauntless-skinned Ellen Page pulls off being pregnant and confused without being one-dimensional. She’s quirky, yet thoughtful. She garners our sympathy, but leaves room for us to call her stupid. Page skilfully dissolves Juno from self-assured routabout to scared little girl in over her head, and we can easily feel her pain without it being delivered to us in a nicely wrapped cliched package.

The rest of the characters are equally memorable, and Jennifer Garner is even lovable as the high-strung adoptive mother-to-be. Even when she decides which shade of yellow to paint the nursery — custard or butter cream — you want to hug her and tell her not to worry.

The writing and acting were not the only things carrying this movie; director Jason Reitman really brings the message home through what he decides to focus on. A simple shot of Juno’s bare feet next to Michael Cera’s clad in muddy running spikes will make you fight tears toward the end of the movie.

"It’s all in, Juno," is the thought provoking, heart-warming and hilarious movie it promises to be and is worth the ridiculous $9.50 admission.

Martin Bater
THE ORACLE (U. SOUTH FLORIDA)

Looking at a half-cut birthday cake that used to have "celebrate" written on it, I came up with a new term: "célébrât" (cel-e-brat).

A célébrât is a celebrity or sports figure who is a danger to himself or herself and/or the people around him.

New England Patriots wide receiver Randy Moss and Dallas Cowboys wide receiver Terrell Owens often were sports celebrities and team cancers to good teammates by being on the right teams surrounded by the right people.

I believe the same is possible for current celebrities and rehab veterans such as Paris Hilton and Britney Spears. Granted, they are only two of many celebrities, but they set an impossibly high standard of ineptitude and self-destruction. Some day, business schools around the country will showcase them as prime examples of what not to do to ensure your clients and your business long-term success.

Hilton is the poster girl for celebrities. She is famous for the sake of being famous. She contributes nothing positive to society and seems to lower America’s collective IQ by 2(K) miles per hour with nobody willing to stop her.

Unlike Hilton, she does have talent. She can capture the audience’s imagination and be as sexy as anybody has been since Madonna, and she has a fan base out there somewhere that still adores her.

The trouble is, she’s too famous for her own good. She seems overwhelmed in every facet of her life, and the talent she has is slowly going down the sewer.

Moss used to be football’s version of Spears. The parallels are astounding. During last year’s draft he was traded to the New England Patriots, and Moss the touchdown menace was reborn. Playing for the NFL’s best quarterback and a coach who won three Super Bowls — Tom Brady and Bill Belichick, respectively — Moss found motivation again and broke the single-season touchdown record set by Jerry Rice.

Can Spears find her New England Patriots equivalent? For that to happen she needs to find a producer she can trust and make a record backed by relevant and trustworthy people in the music business. A CD with tracks featuring prominent artists and a music video that blows people’s minds would put her career back on track. After that, everything else should fall into place.

America needs celebrities — they make people feel better about the way they screw up — but that doesn’t mean celebrities have to stay that way forever. They can change and become great once again.
to drinking a warm, melted milk chocolate bar. Dina Victoria, the owner and designer of Little Laura Lou Clothing Company, located next to Giordano's shop, said, "I think it's better than regular hot chocolate." She said it is much creamier, and the consistency is different than other drinks she has tried.

Victoria, whose favorite freeze flavor is orange, met Giordano when he was moving into the building two months ago and said that one reason he may succeed in this business is because "he and his family are just really nice people." She explained that he puts love and care into what he does, and like many family shop owners in San Luis Obispo, he is driven more by passion than money.

Down the road, Giordano might begin to sell Italian-style sausages and pastries, and possibly non-dairy smoothies with his freeze as a base. He has tried to get in touch with catering services on campus because students at the Farmers' Market suggested he bring his product to Cal Poly. He is also open to catering at barbecues, corporate events or weddings.

"In the future, if people did call and say, 'Hey, we love your product. Can you bring it over to our birthday party?' I'd be all over that," he said.

If his San Luis Obispo location works out, Giordano and Colbert will try to expand to other cities like Atascadero and Paso Robles. But for now, he is just focusing on his San Luis Obispo shop.

"I don't want to get too overwhelmed with what's going to happen in the future. I just want to get this off the ground," Giordano said, adding, "Being that it's my first business, I'm just trying to take it step by step.'

Giordano wants his shop to grow with the community and become an established place that people come to see in San Luis Obispo. "It will be a fun ride, to say the least," he explained. "The best part about it now is that I'm finally open.'

"And as he says to his customers as he offers them a taste of G's Italian Freeze, 'You come in, you try it. You either like it or you love it.'"
Dear James Kotman,

I am allowing you and your humor column please make it funny, not entirely ignorant and offensive. I don’t believe that I too far out of line in saying that the hate speech blatantly dis- placed in your most recent article (“Why I Hate White People” on Jan. 10) would be severely punished if it were to be written by a non-humor columnist about, say, a minority group. I’m not saying what you wrote should be censored — what you want — but I think it was very naive of you to believe people would think of this article as humorous. Keep your audience in mind and examine, instead of promoting your own bigoted, demeaning anger.

Jaki DeMarchi
Animal science junior

Column makes Mustang Daily less respectable

I just finished reading the column titled “Why I hate white people” and I am ashamed to say that the Mustang Daily is endorsed by the school that I PROUDLY attend. It is pathetic that you would allow such hateful, ignorant and simple-minded writing to be printed in your publication. As I was reading the article, a stinging feeling fell in my chest as I realized the article was actually printed with the copyright of Mustang Daily on it. Do you want to be a respectable publication? Do you really want James Koman to put this article on his resume?

In all honesty the Mustang Daily has lost any respect I had for it. I want to be a proud student of Cal Poly, and the childish and disgusting writing is presented like this I find myself doubting if I actually want to be associated with this school.

Thank you for your time.

Dear Mr. Koman, I will not attempt to cold, rude, fight, chauvinistic or reason with you. But don’t be surprised if the at is let out of your turns. Regards.

—Anonymous

As an alum of Cal Poly, while I agree that this nation gives you the right to say anything you like (secured and published for you by white people in our Constitution), I disagree with the manner in which you have said it. I used to feel that Cal Poly students had more class than this. You sound more like Hitler condoning an entire race instead of an American speaking his mind. This article has no humor at all and I feel, as an alum, a public apology should be made.

—Tom

Response to “Why I hate white people”

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Barry Winler
ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS — Gone — Peyton Manning, Marvin Harrison, Adam Vinatieri and the rest of the Colts.

By stunning Indianapolis, the San Diego Chargers just knocked off New England’s biggest road block to the Super Bowl.

Now San Diego must avoid a repeat of its last performance at New England.

That will be especially difficult without an injured LaDainian Tomlinson, who departed in the first half with a bruised right knee in the Chargers’ stunning 28-24 victory Sunday.

With Billy Volek at quarterback and Michael Turner the main runner, San Diego went 78 yards on eight plays, with Volek sneaking it in from the 1 with 4:50 remaining for the lead. The Chargers’ big-play defense then held on downs at in 7, and stopped Indy again in the final moments to preserve their eighth straight win.

To make it nine in a row and advance to their second Super Bowl — the other was a loss to the San Francisco 49ers in the 1994 season — the Chargers will need all the resourcefulness they showed at Indianapolis. Being undermanned against undefeated New England should be an enticing prospect.

Still, with All-Pro end Anthony Costa-Martie getting an interception and fumble recovery, and line backers Shawne Merriman and Shaun Phillips plugging Manning, the Chargers showed they have the ability to throw off any offense. Maybe even the most prolific attack in NFL history.

The Chargers didn’t come close against the Patriots in Week 2, falling 38-14. That was the beginning of a slide to 5-5 for San Diego, but the Chargers (13-5) are rolling now.

“A lot happened since then,” Patriots coach Bill Belichick said. “We’ll definitely start all over on the preparations. It’s like 16-0 against any team.”

It was a gutsy showing by Rivers, who threw for three scores — he banged his right knee on a 56-yard screen pass to Darren Sproles to end the third quarter. And Turner, who could be a starter elsewhere but usually sits behind league rushing leader Tomlinson, gave the offense the balance it desperately needed in the late stages of the upset, rushing for 71 yards.

The Chargers’ opportunistic defense, which led the league in takeaways (48) and turnover margin (plus-24), grabbed two interceptions — both on tipped balls — and a fumble. While San Diego couldn’t stop Manning’s offense from steadily marching downfield most of the game, it could make the key plays that get you closer to the Super Bowl.

Still, Tomlinson is limited or sidelined, how much chance do the Chargers have against the perfect Patriots? Not to mention perhaps missing Rivers or tight end Antonio Gates, who courageously played much of the day on a dislocated toe.

For the Colts (13-4), it was a bitterly quick elimination from the postseason.

A year ago, they won three playoff games, then beat Chicago, 20-17, in the Super Bowl. They couldn’t recapture their touch on offense or defense this time, and a defense that allowed the fewest points during the season wore down against the equally physical Chargers.

Still, the Colts went in front 24-21 when Gonzalez slipped past Marlon McCree down the sideline to complete a 55-yard scoring play with 10:07 to go. San Diego coach Norv Turner challenged that Gonzalez stepped out of bounds at the 25, but the play stood.

So San Diego’s backup then won it, helped by a 27-yard screen pass to rookie Legedu Naanee and a 15-yard face-mask penalty against Indianapolis cornerback Marlin Jackson.

Manning did throw for 402 yards, completing 33 of his 48 throws, but both interceptions killed deep scoring threats. Rivers was 14-of-19 for 264 yards, and Volek went 3-of-4 for 48 yards in his clutch relief role. Vincent Jackson became Manning’s top target with Gates struggling, and had seven catches for 93 yards and a score.

Indy lost only six fumbles all season, but Harrison, who hadn’t been hit in almost three months while sidelined by a knee injury, was stripped on his first reception by Costa-Martie. McCree recovered at the San Diego 22, stymying a lengthy drive begun with Kelvin Hayden’s interception.

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Basketball
continued from page 12

"No one cares who takes a shot," she said. "We have great team chemistry right now."

Sophomore forward Rebecca Trotter, who tied her career high with 16 points, said she was unnoticed of her own personal achievement.

"Oh, I didn’t even know," she said when told of the statistic. "There was just a lot of ball movement and everything flowed tonight."

On the other hand, the Colts, who had 15 turnovers, had just 11 assists. Sophomore guard Tomartie, the league leader in 21 passes, a deflection by Wayne on the march. But Nate Kaeding’s minus L.T., got to the Colts 31 be-

ANY Asplund, who netted a career-high 10 points, and freshman guard Desiray continued from page 12

Women’s tennis team opens season in dominant fashion
In their opening dual matches of the spring season, the Mustangs beat Santa Clara and then UC-Santa Barbara (13-4, 2-2 BWC) at 7 p.m. Saturday.

Senior guard Kyla Howell’s 3-point shot about eight-and-a-half minutes into the second half, and the Colts were down to a 57-50 deficit at the half.

In the final seconds of the half, Johnston, whose two points were her first as a college player.

round up
continued from page 12

Junior guard Brett Laser paced UC Irvine with a career-high 20 points, and senior center Darren Felix chipped in his second straight double-double, with 13 points and 11 rebounds. Sophomore guard Chad Escribar contributed 10 points in the win.

For the Mustangs, who trailed 13-2 less than five minutes into the opening half, junior guard Chaz Thomas compiled 11 points and five assists.

They mounted a 21-8 run capped by a dunk by junior forward Coby Lewis over the next eight minutes, though, on the way to a 29-29 deadlock at intermission.

The win kept the Anteaters unblemished at home for the season, at 6-0.

In other conference action Saturday night, first-place Cal State Northridge (12-3, 4-0 BWC) defeated its home court by downsing Pacific (11-3, 2-1 BWC) 78-61.

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The Mustangs will travel to Cal State Bakersfield for a 7 p.m. tip Thursday before returning home to face the Gauchos at 4 p.m. Saturday.

Chargers
continued from page 12

field goal, then the Chargers, now minus L.T., got to the Colts 31 be-

hind Turner, who gained 25 yards on the march. But Nate Keading’s 48-yard field goal try bounced off the right upright.

In the final seconds of the half, Manning’s fourth incompletion in 22 throws, a deflection by Wayne on a high pass, was picked off by Tomartie, the league leader in...
Saturday night all right for offense

Poly off to best conference start in 28 years after demolishing UC Irvine

Donovan Aird

Everyone on the Cal Poly women’s basketball team could get whatever they wanted on a Saturday night full of milestones at Mott Gym.

And the Mustangs got plenty of lay-ups, teardrops in the lane, back-in, pull-up jumpers, bombs and even a technical free throw or two in their 92-55 win over UC Irvine, but it all added up to something they wanted even more: their best Big West Conference start ever, and the program’s best conference start in 28 years.

“This was easily the best we’ve played as a team,” Cal Poly head coach Faith Mimnaugh said.

“We played such beautiful basketball tonight.”

For the visiting Anteaters, it became clear from the onset that the scoreboard would be an uphill climb.

When Sparkle Anderson claimed a steal and raced down court for an up-and-under lay-up at the halftime buzzer, 10 players had scored to mount a 47-24 lead for Cal Poly (7-9, 4-0 BWC). The team was well on its way to its best conference start since 1979-80, when it began Southern California Athletic Association play in Division II 5-0.

More immediately relevant, though, is that the Mustangs assured themselves of a share of first place in the Big West, which they entered the weekend in first place in the Big West, which they entered in 1980, and the Mustangs’ 16 total assists en route to 16 total points against the Anteaters to even more than 10 percent.

That was the response of undefeated senior Chad Mendes (18-0), ranked No. 3 in the nation at 141 pounds, after the Cal Poly wrestling team lost on Saturday afternoon Pac-10 Conference dual at Mott Gym to No. 25 Boise State.

The final score was 26-5.

The Mustangs (4-4, 3-2 Pac-10) won only two of the matches.

In addition to Mendes, who defeated Cam Jones in a 10-1 major decision, Micah Ferguson (8-8) accounted for a Cal Poly positive.

Ferguson came back from dropping a technical fall Friday night in a team win over Arizona State to claim a 7-2 decision at 125 over the Broncos’ Alan Bartelli.

Cal Poly assistant coach Aaron Simpson surmised that the loss might have had something to do with the big win the Mustangs had just two nights earlier against the Sun Devils.

“The team was maybe a little satisfied with what it did Friday night,” Simpson said.

Both Mendes and Simpson said that the team was “a little flat” during Sunday’s meet.

MUSTANGS can’t follow upset of Arizona State, claim only two matches in ensuing Pac-10 dual

Brittney Clyde

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Both Mendes and Simpson said that the team was “a little flat” during Sunday’s meet.

Mendes also put forth the wrestling style of the Broncos (3-1, 2-1 Pac-10) as a reason that the Mustangs didn’t do as well as they would have liked.

“Boise (State) is heavy on the head, and we’re not used to that style,” Mendes said.

Tyler Sherfy, No. 11 in the country at 157, won a 5-2 upset decision against Cal Poly’s Chase Pami, ranked No. 9.

Adam Hall, 12th in the nation at 149, also won by decision, 8-1 over Eric Maldonado.

In exhibition, Cal Poly’s Collin Brooks (180) pinned Chris Givens of Boise State in 6 minutes, 29 seconds.

The Mustangs have a break from marches to next weekend's dual at UC Davis at 7 p.m. Jan. 25.

Cal Poly’s Eric Maldonado grapples with Arizona State’s Jerrald Trulson on Friday night. Maldonado won by a technical fall in 6 minutes, 25 seconds. The Mustangs won overall, 24-17.

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